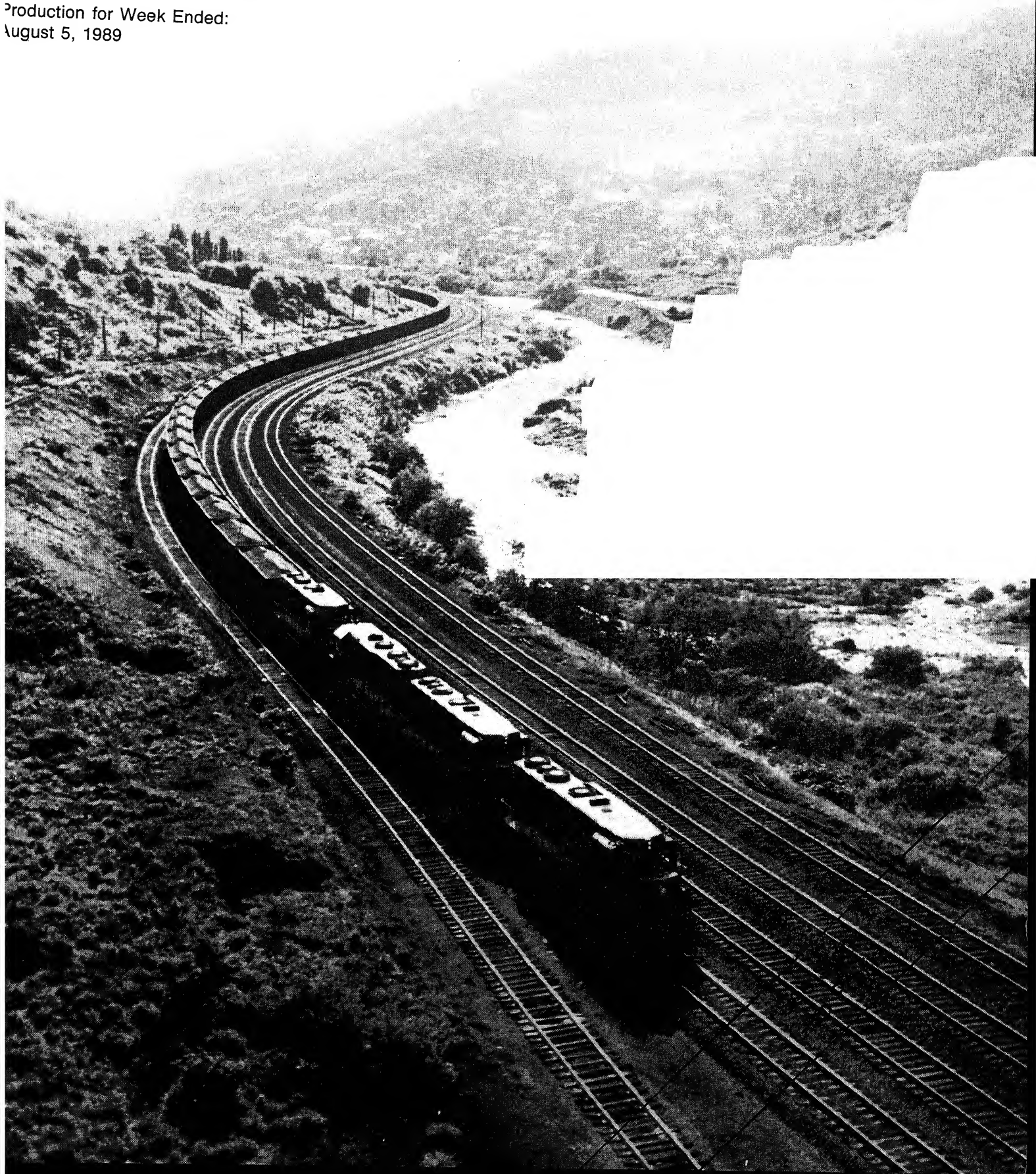




Energy  
Information  
Administration

# Weekly Coal Production

Production for Week Ended:  
August 5, 1989



**Table 1. Coal Production**

	Week Ended			52 Weeks Ended		
Production and Carloadings	08/05/89	07/29/89	08/06/88	08/05/89	08/06/88	Percent Change
Production (Thousand Short Tons)						
Bituminous <sup>1</sup> and Lignite . . . . .	18,105	18,311	18,498	960,769	936,860	2.6
Pennsylvania Anthracite . . . . .	62	66	72	3,496	3,546	-1.4
U.S. Total . . . . .	18,167	18,377	18,570	964,264	940,406	2.5
Railroad Cars Loaded . . . . .	120,282	121,802	124,460	6,355,337	6,089,498	

<sup>1</sup>Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 2. Coal Production by State**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended		
	08/05/89	07/29/89	08/06/88
<b>Bituminous Coal<sup>1</sup> and Lignite</b>			
East of the Mississippi . . . . .	10,891	11,248	11,190
Alabama . . . . .	435	447	485
Illinois . . . . .	1,234	1,221	1,221
Indiana . . . . .	632	592	624
Kentucky . . . . .	2,885	3,048	3,076
Kentucky, Eastern . . . . .	2,174	2,256	2,326
Kentucky, Western . . . . .	711	792	750
Maryland . . . . .	62	64	51
Ohio . . . . .	609	634	599
Pennsylvania Bituminous . . . . .	1,114	1,180	1,240
Tennessee . . . . .	109	110	131
Virginia . . . . .	903	917	956
West Virginia . . . . .	2,908	3,034	2,808
West of the Mississippi . . . . .	7,214	7,063	7,308
Alaska . . . . .	29	29	26
Arizona . . . . .	236	239	249
Arkansas . . . . .	2	2	15
Colorado . . . . .	315	307	295
Iowa . . . . .	7	7	5
Kansas . . . . .	10	10	11
Louisiana . . . . .	68	47	
Missouri . . . . .	76	77	
Montana . . . . .	746	755	
New Mexico . . . . .	438	213	
North Dakota . . . . .	525	532	
Oklahoma . . . . .	34	36	
Texas . . . . .	1,091	1,105	
Utah . . . . .	378	277	
Washington . . . . .	93		
Wyoming . . . . .	3,166		
Bituminous <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total . . . .	18,105	18,311	18,498
Pennsylvania Anthracite . . . . .	62	66	72
U.S. Total . . . . .	18,167	18,377	18,570

<sup>1</sup>Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 3. Coal Production by State: July 1989**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	July 1989	June 1989	July 1988	Year to Date		Percent Change
				1989	1988	
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite						
East of the Mississippi . . . . .	36,698	46,022	39,795	334,539	324,207	3.2
Alabama . . . . .	1,476	2,160	1,757	15,408	14,609	5.5
Illinois . . . . .	4,148	4,688	4,363	34,642	33,277	4.1
Indiana . . . . .	2,010	2,589	2,523	17,607	17,565	.2
Kentucky . . . . .	9,781	12,894	11,563	88,752	89,808	-1.2
Kentucky, Eastern . . . . .	7,296	9,485	8,744	66,210	66,603	-.6
Kentucky, Western . . . . .	2,485	3,410	2,819	22,543	23,204	-2.9
Maryland . . . . .	201	284	191	1,968	1,933	1.8
Ohio . . . . .	2,009	2,499	2,127	18,779	18,334	2.4
Pennsylvania Bituminous . . . . .	4,154	5,143	4,444	38,735	39,956	-3.1
Tennessee . . . . .	361	518	453	3,457	3,444	.4
Virginia . . . . .	2,946	3,998	3,346	27,797	26,877	3.4
West Virginia . . . . .	9,612	11,248	9,028	87,393	78,405	11.5
West of the Mississippi . . . . .	28,183	32,529	29,381	214,599	206,742	3.8
Alaska . . . . .	101	114	99	823	855	-3.8
Arizona . . . . .	852	1,059	945	6,916	6,517	6.1
Arkansas . . . . .	8	15	58	77	126	-38.9
Colorado . . . . .	1,172	1,665	1,158	10,418	8,567	21.6
Iowa . . . . .	24	25	19	238	199	19.6
Kansas . . . . .	35	41	40	274	543	-49.6
Louisiana . . . . .	247	150	218	1,591	1,723	-7.6
Missouri . . . . .	266	299	293	2,110	2,197	-4.0
Montana . . . . .	3,025	3,122	2,955	20,873	22,108	-5.6
New Mexico . . . . .	1,666	2,684	1,427	14,325	11,779	21.6
North Dakota . . . . .	2,221	2,620	2,088	17,634	16,168	9.1
Oklahoma . . . . .	137	225	149	1,194	1,370	-12.8
Texas . . . . .	3,871	4,504	4,014	30,084	30,448	-1.2
Utah . . . . .	1,334	1,362	1,384	10,658	10,588	.7
Washington . . . . .	333	397	342	2,787	3,095	-9.9
Wyoming . . . . .	12,891	14,246	14,194	94,598	90,462	4.6
Bituminous <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total . . . .	64,881	78,551	69,176	549,137	530,948	3.4
Pennsylvania Anthracite . . . . .	211	253	246	1,911	1,851	3.2
U.S. Total . . . . .	65,093	78,804	69,422	551,048	532,799	3.4

<sup>1</sup>Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

# State Coal Profile: Alaska

## Total Area of State:

586,412 square miles

## Area Underlain by Coal:

35,000 square miles

## Demonstrated Reserve Base of Coal:

6 billion short tons

(January 1, 1988)

1 percent of U.S. total

## First Year of Documented Coal Production:

1855

## Peak Year of Coal Production:

1986 (1.57 million short tons)

## 1988 Coal Production:

1.55 million short tons

(<1 percent of U.S. total)

## 1988 Coal Consumption:

0.73 million short tons

(<1 percent of U.S. total)

## 1988 Coal Exports:

0.82 million short tons

(1 percent of U.S. total)

## Number of Mines (1988)

Underground .....

Surface .....

## Number of Miners (1987)

Underground .....

Surface .....

## Average Quality of Coal (1988)

### Heat Content

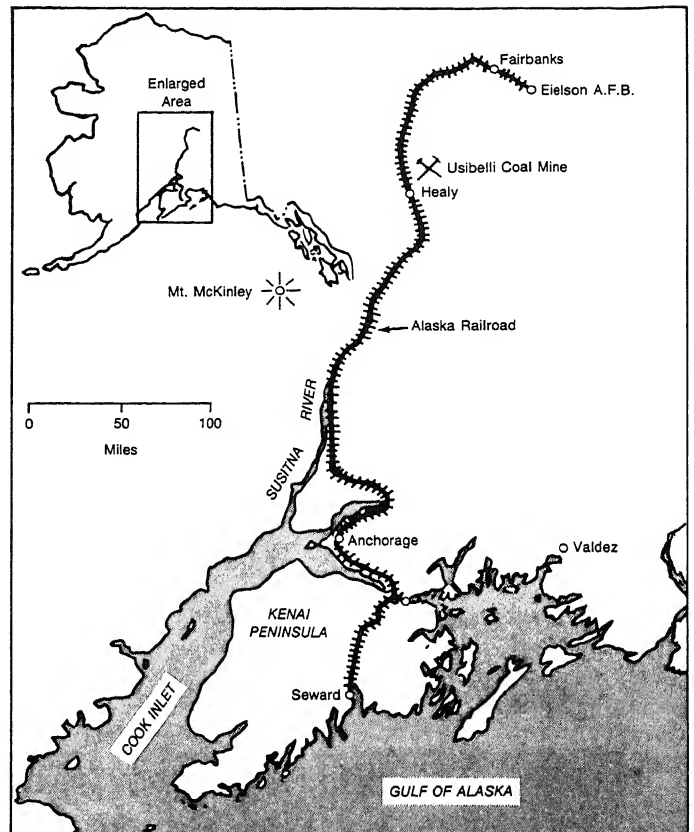
(million Btu per short ton) .....

### Sulfur Content

(percent) .....

### Ash Content

(percent) .....



<sup>1</sup>Usibelli mine.

<sup>2</sup>Utility coal receipts.

Alaska has an extensive reserve base of coal, but very little of it has been developed, because the markets for its coal are limited. Currently, only one surface mine produces coal in the State, and about half of its annual output of 1.5 million short tons is exported. The value of coal production to the economy of Alaska is greatly overshadowed by that of crude oil and natural gas.

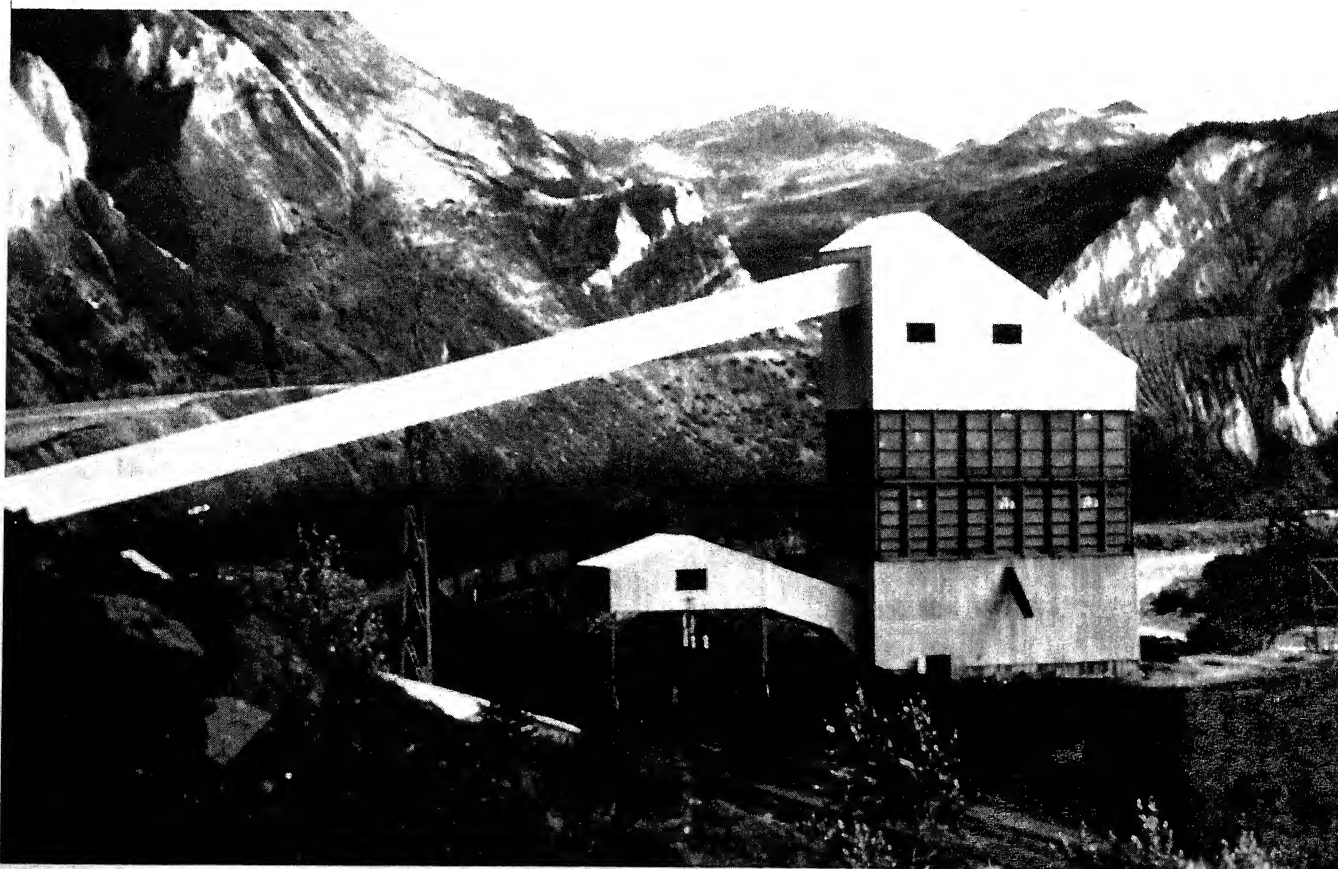
Coal mining in Alaska began on a commercial scale in 1855, while the area was still a Russian territory. A mine was developed near Port Graham, on the Kenai Peninsula, with the hope of exporting coal to California. Unable to compete in the export market, the mine instead supplied coal to steamers, whaling ships, and local consumers for about 10 years. After Alaska was purchased by the United States, many small mines were opened to provide coal for riverboats, domestic heating, and thawing frozen ground for gold mining. Production at the turn of the century was about 1,000 short tons per year. This represented only about 1 percent of the total coal consumed in Alaska. Canada and Washington State supplied most of the rest.

In the early 1900's, coal production trended upward as mines were opened near Anchorage and Healy to

supply coal for the U.S. Navy, for developments at Anchorage and Fairbanks, and for the Alaska Railroad. In addition to consuming coal, the Alaska Railroad played an important role in opening up coal markets along its route.

Production rose from about 100,000 short tons in the late 1920's to more than 700,000 short tons in the 1950's. During and after World War II, the military buildup in the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas expanded markets for coal. In the postwar period, markets were lost and mines closed when the Alaska Railroad converted to diesel-electric locomotives, and when oil and natural gas produced from large deposits discovered in the Cook Inlet captured most of the coal market in the Anchorage area. Afterwards, coal production fluctuated from 600,000 to 900,000 short tons until 1985, when it rose sharply to 1.5 million short tons with the beginning of exports to Korea.

Since the early 1970's, the only active coal mine in Alaska has been operated by Usibelli Coal Mine, Incorporated, near Healy in the Nenana field, south of Fairbanks. The Usibelli mine ranks among the 5 percent of U.S. mines that produce more than 1 million short tons of coal annually. Productivity in



*Coal from the Usibelli mine is crushed in this tipple and loaded into hopper cars of the Alaskan Railroad.*



1987 was high, averaging 7 short tons per miner per hour—the fifth highest surface-mining rate of any State.

The Usibelli mine produces subbituminous coal from three beds, which range from 18 to nearly 30 feet thick. Overburden is removed by a dragline that reportedly is the largest land-based machine in Alaska. Coal is loaded by hydraulic excavator into trucks for delivery to a nearby tippie for crushing and loading into coal trains of the Alaska Railroad.

Export coal is shipped some 300 miles to Seward, a year-round ice-free port. Under a 15-year contract signed in 1985, Usibelli supplies more than 800,000 short tons annually to the Korean Electric Power Corporation. Usibelli's domestic customers purchase about 700,000 short tons per year. About 40 percent of this is consumed by electric utilities, including a minemouth plant at Healy. The rest is used by other industries and by residential and commercial users, including the University of Alaska and military bases near Fairbanks.

Coal production in Alaska is expected to remain stable for the foreseeable future. It will rise if additional export markets are established, and also if Usibelli constructs a proposed 50-megawatt coal-burning fluidized-bed power plant and coal-drying facility at Healy. The University of Alaska, which is interested in expanding the market for Alaskan

coal, has a research program that includes the development of a coal-water fuel mixture.

Despite their limited development, the coal deposits of Alaska continue to be of interest. In recent years, several deposits in the Anchorage area have been investigated as possible sources of export coal for the Far East, because of their favorable proximity to the coast or to rail transportation facilities. Although geological conditions, permafrost (permanently frozen ground), and a limited transportation infrastructure could pose problems for large-scale coal development, the coal deposits in Alaska are potentially important as future sources of energy.

### Sources

Alaska Geographic, *Alaska's Oil/Gas & Minerals Industry*, R.B. Sanders, "Coal Resources of Alaska," Vol. 9, No. 4 (1982); *Alaska Miner*, "Liquid Coal—The New Black Gold," Vol. 16, No. 11 (November 1988), p. 11; Alaska Power Authority, *Alaska Electric Power Statistics, 1960-1987* (December 1988); Energy Information Administration, *Coal Production* (various issues); Geological Society of America, Special Paper 210, R.D. Merritt, "Paleoenvironmental and Tectonic Controls in Major Coal Basins of Alaska" (1986); U.S. Department of Energy, *Transportation and Market Analysis of Alaska Coal* (Seattle, Washington, 1980); *Usibelli Coal Miner*, Vol. 8, 1988.

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